

## Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00  
NSAE-00 NSCE-00 SSO-00 ICAE-00 INRE-00 PM-05 H-01  
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O 151657Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY LONDON  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7181  
INFO AMEMBASSY PRETORIA IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY MAPUTO IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM IMMEDIATE  
AMEMBASSY LUSAKA IMMEDIATE  
USMISSION USUN NEW YORK IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L LONDON 09480

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1  
TAGS: PDEV RH UK  
SUBJECT: RHODESIA: GRAHAM REPORT OF LAST MEETING  
WITH OFFICIALS

1. FOLLOWING IS REPORT SENT BY JOHNNY GRAHAM ON HIS AND  
STEVE LOW'S FINAL MEETING WITH OFFICIALS IN SALISBURY  
BEFORE THEIR DEPARTURE FOR MAPUTO. REPORT HAS LEFT  
IMPRESSION HERE THAT DAVID SMITH'S EARLIER PROPOSAL  
FALLS FAR SHORT OF REPRESENTING AN AGREED VIEW EVEN  
WITHIN WHITE LEADERSHIP.

2. QUOTE AT OUR FOLLOW-UP MEETING WITH GAYLARD,  
CLAYPOLE AND GEORGE SMITH THIS AFTERNOON WE EXPLORED  
THE MODALITIES. AN IMMEDIATE SNAG EMERGED IN THAT  
GAYLARD SAID THAT HE THOUGHT THAT IF THE EXECUTIVE  
COUNCIL WERE REPRESENTED BY FOUR, ONE FOR EACH OF THE  
CONSTITUENT PARTIES, THEY WOULD NOT EXPECT THE PF TO BE  
REPRESENTED BY MORE THAN TWO. IT WAS ALSO CLEAR THAT  
GAYLARD ENVISAGES A RATHER BUREAUCRATIC PROCESS STARTING  
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WITH A DISCUSSION OF THE INDEPENDENCE CONSTITUTION,  
BEFORE THAT BECOMES TOO FIRMLY CRYSTALISED WITHIN THE  
TRANSITIONAL GOVERNMENT'S MACHINE, ALTHOUGH HE DID AT  
ONE POINT VOUCHSAFE THE OPINION THAT PROBABLY THE ONLY  
HOPE OF REAL PROGRESS WAS FOR THE SIX LEADERS (NKOMO,  
MUGABE, IAN SMITH, MUZOREWA, SITHOLE AND CHIRAU) TO  
MEET ALONE AND THRASH THINGS OUT. IT WAS LEFT THAT BOTH

OF US WOULD EXPLORE THESE ISSUES FURTHER, GAYLARD WITH THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL, THE BLACK MEMBERS OF WHICH, AT LEAST, HE CONFIRMED, HAD NO PRIOR NOTICE OF DAVID SMITH'S PROPOSAL, AND LOW AND I WITH THE PF, ON THE LINES OF MY TELNO 172.

GAYLARD SAID REALISTICALLY THAT HE DOUBTED IF IT WOULD BE POSSIBLE TO HOLD MORE THAN ONE MEETING WITHOUT PUBLICITY. IN PRACTICAL TERMS IT WOULD SUIT HIM BEST TO FLY ON THE DIRECT FLIGHT TO LONDON ON THE MONDAY NIGHT, RETURNING BY THE SAME MEANS ON THE THURSDAY NIGHT. THIS AVOIDED THE RISK OF BEING SPOTTED AT JOHANNESBURG, THOUGH THERE WAS INEVITABLY SOME RISK AT SALISBURY OR ON THE AIRCRAFT.

WE AGREED THAT LOW AND I WOULD RETURN ON THE 20 JUNE, UNLESS THERE WERE A REAL HOPE OF SEEING NKOMO IN WHICH CASE WE MIGHT DELAY IT. (I HAVE JUST SEEN MAPUTO'S TELEGRAM CONFIRMING THAT MUGABE WILL BE THERE.) HE AGREED THAT THERE WAS SOME ADVANTAGE IN OUR ESTABLISHING THE HABIT OF OUR COMING AND GOING WITHOUT PUBLICITY.

WE PROPOSE TO SAY NOTHING TO THE PRESS ABOUT THE CONTENT OF OUR DISCUSSIONS TODAY AND IT WAS AGREED WITH THE DEPUTIES THAT WE WOULD MERELY SAY WE HAD DISCUSSIONS. IN SPEAKING TO THE PRESS, FOR BACKGROUND ONLY, WE SHALL CONTINUE TO TAKE THE LINE THAT WE HAVE DONE HITHERTO, THAT WE BELIEVE THAT DIRECT NEGOTIATIONS WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL

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NECESSARY SOONER OR LATER AND THAT WE ARE MAKING OURSELVES AVAILABLE TO THE PARTIES WITH THAT END IN VIEW. DESPITE THE PROCEEDING PARAGRAPH, I HAVE JUST HEARD THAT IAN SMITH IS TO RECORD AN INTERVIEW WITH THE BBC AT 1245 ON 15 JUNE. I HAVE ARRANGED TO OBTAIN A TRANSCRIPT. I HAVE NO LINE ON WHAT HE WILL SAY.

BREWSTER

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NNN

## Message Attributes

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